

HAM RAG



Visit our website for more club and area ham information
In the Rockford area at <http://www.w9axd.org>

RARA Mission Statement

A member association with common interest of public service to the community through the use of amateur radio.

November 2012

Election Results for 2013 Officers

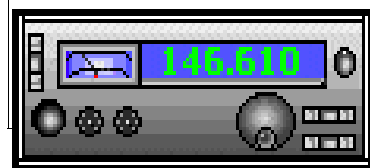
Office

Nomination/Election

President	Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO
Vice President	Robert Larson KC9ICH
Treasurer	Open
Secretary	Jim Holich AB9SX
Board Member	Rich Range WB9SJG
Board Member	Kurt Eversole KE9N
Board Member	Gordon Seaman KC9NEX
Board Member	Steve Miles KC9WBH
Ham Rag Editor	Jim Holich AB9SX
Webmaster	Robert Larsen KC9ICH

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Ham of the Year

The nomination form can be found on the next to the last page of this and the December Ham Rag

NEXT MEETING

FRIDAY
November 9, 2012

Location:
St. Joseph / St. Anthony
Rooms

Saint Anthony OSF
5666 East State Street
Rockford, Illinois

Program:

"Standing Up for
Standing waves" Doug
Abrahamson KC9SD0

Banquet

There was some discussion at the Board Meeting that we have the awards banquet in January 2013. The location would be a private room or hall to conserve funds. It would also be a catered affair. The menu is TBD. One location has been discussed, but the topic is open. The date is also open at this time. We will probably discuss this under "new business" at the meeting.

Latest news and events on our web page: <http://www.w9axd.org>

Illinois QSO Party Station W9I



Illinois QSO Party

A special event call was obtained by Dave Lewis K9YM as K9I. Kurt Eversole KE9N provided the RV that was parked at an intersection coinciding with 4 counties. Every contact got 4 points instead of 1. Participants were Al Fischer KD9CA, Dave Lewis K9YM, Dave Larsen N9ZXL, Steve Miles KC9WBH, Gordy Seaman KC9NEX, Rich Range WB9SFG, Kurt Eversole KE9N, Tom Shouler N9VJU and Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO. A good time was had by all

Numbers were :

402 contacts .
33 counties were contacted,
5 DX contacts.
57 contacts/hour were made



From the Secretary

Minutes of October 12th Meeting

President Tom Shouler, N9VJU opened the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Secretary's Report was read by Jim Holich, AB9SX. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Kurt Eversole, KE9N and seconded by Robert Larsen, KC9ICH. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Treasurers report was then read by John Olson, W9JGO. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Dave Larsen, N9ZXL and seconded by Dennis Johansson, K9VMY. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Under "old business", Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO reported on the 147.000 repeater. He mentioned that the antenna was in a temporary location, and plans were being executed to improve the installation. The goal of putting the repeater "on the air" was achieved.

Under "new business" a suggestion was made to have a quarterly "swap table". The suggestion was well received, but no action was taken.

Nominations and election of officers for 2012 was put to the floor:

Office	Nomination/Election	Motion to accept	Second
President	Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO	Chuck Derwent K9SAN	Kurt Eversole KE9N
Vice President	Robert Larsen KC9ICH	Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO	Dave Bond W9MG
Treasurer	Open		
Secretary	Jim Holich AB9SX	Kurt Eversole KE9N	John Olson W9JGO
Board Member	Rich Range WB9SJG	Kurt Eversole KE9N	Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO
Board Member	Kurt Eversole KE9N	John Olson W9JGO	Jim Holich AB9SX
Board Member	Gordon Seaman KC9NEX	Jim Holich AB9SX	Dave Bond W9MG
Board Member	Steve Miles	Doug Abrahamson KC9SDO	Kurt Eversole KE9N

There was a short period of socialization and fellowship before the presentation.

The presentation was made by Doug Abramson KC9SDO on the 147.000 Repeater at St. Anthony.

We then had a motion to adjourn by Jim Holich AB9SX and seconded by John Olson, W9JGO. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Submitted by Jim Holich—AB9SX
Secretary

Jamboree on the Air (Boy Scouts)

JOTA was held at the Shack of AB9SX.

Jim Holich AB9SX and Steve Twigg W9SWT helped the Scouts. It was well attended. While the Scouting frequencies were not productive, we were able to have a number of QSO's, one with a special event station in Bemidji Minnesota. Harold the operator there was quite patient with the boys and helped them to overcome 'mic fright'

We had explanations of how radio works, and demonstrated some of the things that Hams can do with radio.

Most of the Scouts and their leaders were from the Rockford/Belvidere area, but one Cub Scout was from Marengo.

A good time was had by all. The boys were very well behaved and courteous.

We'll do it again next year.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAM NOTICE

October 20th there were 2 new licensees. Congratulations to:

New:

ROBERT E MORLAN, Technician

HUDSON T WEBBER, Technician

Thanks to Steve Twigg W9SWT, Jim Holich AB9SX and Mike Barry KN9Z for volunteering their time.

Amateur Radio exams are held the 3rd Saturday of every month in Rockford IL. The next session is 9AM November 17, 2012. Walk-ins welcome. Check-in is from 9AM-10:30AM. We require two signature ID's and one photo. If you are a licensed Amateur Radio operator bring your current license and a copy. If you are using a CSCE for an element credit, bring the original and a copy (We need to see the originals & keep a photocopy of each document used for element credit). No copier on site. The test fee is \$14.00. Bring a non-programmable calculator.

Location:

OSF St Anthony Medical Center

5666 E State St

Rockford IL

Exams will be held in the St Francis Room (Main Entrance then turn right).

Rusty Cordell WB9QYV

wb9qyv@aol.com

AREA Repeaters

146.610 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
147.000 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	W9AXD
223.880 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	W9AXD
ATV input	1250 Mhz/ 434 Mhz	W9ATN
	output 421.25 Mhz	
146.805 -	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	K9AMJ
224.440 -	ENC/DEC pl 118.8	K9AMJ
147.255 +	ENC/DEC pl 114.8	WX9MCS
444.725 +	ENC/DEC pl 107.2	WX9MCS
	Linked to FISHFAR	

2012 RARA Officers and Board

Officers:

President - Tom Shouler, N9VJU, 815-877-9129

Vice President - Open

Secretary - Jim Holich AB9SX 779-552-8796

Treasurer - John Olson W9JGO 815-399-4368

Directors:

Doug Abrahamson, KC9SDO 815-979-0329

Kurt Eversole, KE9N 815-222-8017

Dave Larsen, N9ZXL 815-399-8205

Gordon Seaman, KC9NEX 815-234-5034

Web Master - Robert Larson, KC9ICH, 815-540-0309

Ham Rag Editor - Jim Holich, AB9SX, 779-552-8796

Repeater Chairman - Chuck Ingle, AB9KA, 815-979-1049

The K7RA Solar Report

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 44 ARLP044

From Tad Cook, K7RA

Seattle, WA November 2, 2012

ARLP044 Propagation de K7RA

Solar activity quieted this week. Average daily sunspot numbers were down nearly 37 points to 58.4. Average daily solar flux declined 27 points to 116.9.

Predicted solar flux values are 100 for November 2-3, 105 on November 4-5, 110 on November 6-9, 120 on November 10-11, 125 on November 12-13, 130 on November 14, and peaking at 135 on November 15-20, then 130, 125 and 120 on November 21-23, and 115 on November 24-26. It then drops to a minimum of 100 on November 29 through December 1, then back to a high of 135 by mid-December.

The predicted planetary A index is 10 and 8 on November 2-3, 5 on November 4-5, 7 on November 6-7, then 10, 12 and 15 on November 8-10, 5 on November 11 through December 4, and 10, 20 and 15 again on December 5-7, followed by a quiet 5 again through December 16.

A coronal mass ejection hit Earth's magnetic field at 1530 UTC on October 31. This sparked aurora and contributed to the planetary and mid-latitude A index of 17 on November 1, with the college A index (in Alaska) at a stormy 48. The activity is subsiding, with a declining A index through the weekend.

This will be important to domestic HF contesters, as the ARRL November CW Sweepstakes is this weekend. Conditions should be pretty good for the contest.

The geomagnetic forecast from OK1HH says quiet to unsettled activity November 2-3, mostly quiet November 4, quiet to active November 5-6, quiet to unsettled November 7-8, quiet to active November 9, active to disturbed November 10, quiet to active November 11, mostly quiet November 12-14, quiet November 15-18, mostly quiet November 19, quiet November 20-22, and mostly quiet November 23-24.

Last weekend (October 27-28) was the SSB portion of the CQ World Wide DX Contest. The CW weekend is right after Thanksgiving, November 24-25. Jeff Hartley, N8II in West Virginia reports: "I operated 10 meters single band in the contest, but the band was nearly closed as expected at the start, so I migrated down for a few 20 meter Qs. 20 was open nearly worldwide for the first 2 hours with excellent conditions over the pole from just west of JA all the way across to northern Europe; there were also a few very southwestern Europeans workable and the Middle East was loud as usual at that time of day. I worked many Russians including all call areas. RT4RO was S9+25-30 dB. BA, YE2, A7, VU, EY were all logged along with some very loud Africans (C5A, D4C, 5Z4EE). VK1CC called in via long path around 0100z, unusual to work that path so late. This was probably the best 20 meters has ever been at the contest start in my many years of contesting.

"The solar flux averaged around 120 over the weekend with Saturday being slightly better. This allowed excellent conditions to all of Europe and fairly long openings to Russia including zone 17 UA9s.

The K7RA Solar Report

But propagation was very limited to central Asia (worked two UNs with good signals Sunday) and the Far East (none logged) beyond JA; conditions were better to there last year. Good European conditions and activity allowed me to make over 2,150 QSOs with 1,000 in the log by 1715Z Saturday! There was activity up to above 28.8 MHz during the peak time to Europe. Even stations with poor antennas and running QRP were easy to work for hours. Conditions to the south Pacific were rather poor (worse than expected) except from 2300-2330z the last day; mid afternoon to late afternoon. Sunday was pretty much dead that direction except for KH6. KH2/KH0 stations were extremely loud from 2100z until 2300z, much louder than the JAs, about 10 stations were logged total from those 2 countries."

Steve Brunt, K6AAB of Fresno, California reports, "Conditions this weekend were fabulous! 10 meters was open until 0200z on the West Coast. Could have worked 10 single band, but didn't. 15 meters was also great with worldwide openings. 20 meters was open, but odd propagation. I could hear lots of Eastern Europeans, but couldn't work them. I completely missed Zone 15 on 20."

Jon Jones, N0JK in Kansas reports, "Sunday afternoon there were great conditions in the CQ WW SSB contest to the Far East. Many Japanese stations were 20 over S9 on 10 meters just before sunset Sunday afternoon. I worked AH2, AH0, Japan, China, and Hawaii with 100 watts and a CB mag-mount whip. Most stations worked on first or second call."

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at, <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/wlaw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. Find more good information and tutorials on propagation at <http://myplace.frontier.com/~k9la/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Sunspot numbers for October 25 through 31 were 58, 71, 59, 55, 75, 56, and 35, with a mean of 58.4. 10.7 cm flux was 130, 130.7, 121.7, 117, 108.4, 106.3, and 104.2, with a mean of 116.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 4, 4, 3, 3, 2, and 5, with a mean of 3.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 4, 3, 3, 2, 1, and 5, with a mean of 3.

FRIDAY MORNING BREAKFAST

Meets every Friday morning from 8 am until about 9:30 am. An informal gathering of ham folks, no affiliations necessary, good food and good company.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

"The Stockholm Inn"
2420 Charles Street
Rockford, IL 61108



For Sale or Trade

Code Practice Oscillator MiniKits

For sale. \$10 each, includes schematic. All boards are assembled and tested.

Circuit will easily drive headphones or a small speaker.

Each board measures approximately 1.25" square and is great for mounting in a small project box or on a wooden board.

See Dennis K9VMY at the next club meeting. or contact via e-mail k9vmy@arrl.net. Note: shipping is not included.

MFJ—962D Roller Inductor Tuner 1500Watts PEP

Current model List \$299.95 I would like \$125.00

Alpha Delta 160/80 trapped Dipole (100' long)

It needs to be "in the clear". My QTH won't handle it. The only power through it was from an antenna analyzer. Asking \$75.00

See or call Jim Holich AB9SX— 260-433-0219 or jholich@comcast.net

HamFest Information

WCRA Mid-Winter Hamfest Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

Sunday January 20,2013

Kane County Fairgrounds
525 South Randall Road
St. Charles, Illinois.
Kurt Rubin KB9RTO
585 Gundersen Drive
Carol Stream, Illinois 60188
630-604-0157
kb9rto@yahoo.com

**Ham of the Year
2012 Nomination**

The Ham of the Year is an honor that is presented to the R.A.R.A. member who has contributed the most effort to the club and to amateur radio in general during the year, This year the selection will be made by a committee established to evaluate the nominations of deserving candidates from those submitted by club members.

Your nominee should be chosen using two basic criteria: the nominee must be a R.A.R.A. member and should have performed exemplary service for amateur radio during the year 2012. We encourage you to take a few minutes to fill out the form below, or a facsimile while completing all of the requested information.

Nominations may be mailed to Jim Holich—AB9SX at 315 Beacon Drive, Belvidere, Illinois 61008 or jholich@comcast.net or handed to me at the next meeting. All nominations should be received by the December 12th meeting to allow the time for a decision. All nominations will be confidential.

Your participation and early response is highly appreciated.

Jim Holich—AB9SX
Secretary

Nominee _____
Callsign _____

I nominate the above preson for the R.A.R.A. Ham of the Year 2012 award fot the following reasons:



P.O. Box 8465, Rockford, IL 61126

Website: www.w9axd.org

E-mail: jholich@comcast.net

<u>Nets</u>		
Monday 8 PM	RARA Info.	146.610 - 114.8 PL
	RARA	147.000—114.8 PL
Monday 9 PM	10M SSB Net	28.375 +/- USB
Daily 6 PM	Illinois Traffic Net	3.905 LSB

place address label here

November 2012

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Single Adult: \$25.00 Adult w/Family: \$30.00
 Single Senior: \$15.00 Senior w/Family: \$20
 Student: \$15.00

Above rate includes the RARA monthly newsletter, Ham Rag, via email.

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Renewal _____ New _____ Retired _____

Radio Interests _____

Other Interests _____

Suggestions: _____

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

ROCKFORD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
 P.O. BOX 8465
 ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61126